pressed at the recent seminar organised at Delhi on 17th July, 1990 by the Mahila Dakshta Samiti;

(b) whether Government are also aware that Government units such as the NDDB is the major defaulter by marketing groundnut oil with soyabean oil in its one litre packs without any declaration as required;

(c) whether it is illegal to market vegetable oil in one litre packs and if so, action taken against the defaulters; and

(d) whether Government propose to take action in respect of (b) above and also ban adulteration of vegetable oils at the earliest ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) To improve the availability of edible oils and control their prices, the oil release through PDS has been increased to 92,000 MT in the current month from a level of 40,000 MT in the month of April, 1990. To avoid hoarding stock limits of edible oils and oilseeds have been reduced. Various other steps have also been taken by Government for curbing the rising trend of prices in edible oils.

(b) NDDB is marketing only pure groundnut oil in one litre packs and the same is declared on the packs.

(c) NDDB has been permitted to pack and market edible oils in one litre packs vide Notification No. S.O. 596 (E) dated 27th July, 1990 issued by the Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies.

(d) In view of the reply to (b), the question of the taking action in respect of (b) does not arise. Adulteration of vegetable oils is punishable under Prevention of Food Adulteration Act.

Tours by the Directors and Other Scientists of the Institutes

3588. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of days (working and non-working) in a year during which the Directors of each of the R & D Laboratories and Units and Projects etc. under the Ministry of Agriculture were out of station (including Travel time) during 1989-90;

(b) whether any other scientists of each of the above Institutes were absent for more than one month, more than two months and three months and above; if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any guidelines have been framed in this regard for scientific staff and if so, the details thereof and if not, whether these would be framed and implemented in near future; and

(d) whether Government propose to discourage such travelling by scientists so that they can devote themselves to their duties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) Sir, The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

World Bank loan for dairy projects in Tamil Nadu

3589. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the World Bank had given a loan of Rs. 31 crores for a dairy project in Tamil Nadu as appeared in the Hindu of the 13th July, 1990 and if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether it is a fact that milk production has already gone up far ahead of the plans and if so, the reasons for going in for World Bank loan for such a project; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the above decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI NITISH KUMAR) : (a) to (c) World Bank is not providing any direct assistance for a dairy project in Tamil Nadu. However, under